

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of converting text in a delimited flat legacy file to text in a markup language specified by a document type definition file, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a delimited flat legacy file having ~~one or more~~ a plurality of columns with text, each of said columns having a column heading;

providing a map file conforming to said document type definition file and having tags and attributes including references matching said headings, wherein each of the column headings is matched by one of the references included in said attributes;

forming a tree structure from said map file for mapping said text from said flat file into a defined format in said markup language file, and wherein each tag represents one or more nodes of said tree;

reading the map file and using the map file to map text from the legacy file into the defined format in said markup language file, including the step of traversing said legacy file, column by column, and for each of the columns, mapping all of the text in the column to said markup language file, including the steps of:

~~traversing said nodes of said tree structure, node-by-node, and for each said node entering said attributes into said markup language file~~ when one of the references in the attributes of one of the nodes matches the heading of one of the columns of the legacy file, retrieving all of the text from said one of the columns of the legacy file, and entering said retrieved all text into said markup language file; and

~~when said attributes include one of said references that matches one of the column headings, retrieving text from the one of said columns having said matching one of said headings, and entering said retrieved text into said markup language file~~

traversing all of said nodes of said tree to ensure that references are found matching all of the column headings of the legacy file, and thereby to ensure that all of the text from the legacy file is retrieved therefrom and entered into the markup language file.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

3. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the providing step includes the step of providing the map file with default text for certain elements and attributes in the markup language file.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 3, further comprising the step of entering the default text into the markup language for attributes having references that do not match headings of the flat file.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the flat file is a tab delimited flat file.

6. (Currently Amended) A system for converting text in a delimited flat legacy file to text in a markup language specified by a document type definition file, said system comprising:

means for providing a delimited flat legacy file having ~~one or more~~ a plurality of columns with text, each of said columns having a column heading;

means for providing a map file conforming to said document type definition file and having tags and attributes including references matching said headings, wherein each of the column headings is matched by one of the references included in said attributes;

means for forming a tree structure from said map file for mapping said text from said flat file into a defined format in said markup language file, and wherein each tag represents one or more nodes of said tree;

means for reading the map file and using the map file to map text from the legacy file into the defined format in said markup language file, including the step of traversing said legacy file, column by column, and for each of the columns, mapping all of the text in the column to said markup language file, including:

means for traversing said nodes of said tree structure, node-by-node, and ~~for each said node entering said attributes into said markup language file~~ when one of the references in the attributes of one of the nodes matches the heading of one of the columns of the legacy file, retrieving all of the text from said one of the columns of the legacy file, and entering said retrieved all text into said markup language file; and

~~means for operating, when said attributes include one of said references that matches one of the column headings, to retrieve text from the one of said columns one of said headings, and to enter said retrieved text into said markup language file~~

traversing all of said nodes of said tree to ensure that references are found matching all of the column headings of the legacy file, and thereby to ensure that all of the text from the legacy file is retrieved therefrom and entered into the markup language file.

Claim 7 (Cancelled).

8. (Original) A system according to Claim 6, wherein the map file includes default text for certain elements and attributes in the markup language file.

9. (Original) A system according to Claim 8, wherein the traversing means includes means for entering the default text into the markup language for attributes having references that do not match headings of the flat file.

10. (Original) A system according to Claim 6, wherein the flat file is a tab delimited flat file.

11. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for converting text in a delimited flat legacy file to text in a markup language specified by a document type definition file, said method steps comprising:

providing a delimited flat legacy file having ~~one or more~~ a plurality of columns with text, each of said columns having a column heading;

providing a map file conforming to said document type definition file and having tags and attributes including references matching said headings, wherein each of the column headings is matched by one of the references included in said attributes;

forming a tree structure from said map file for mapping said text from said flat file into a defined format in said markup language file, and wherein each tag represents one or more nodes of said tree;

traversing said nodes of said tree structure, node-by-node, and ~~for each said node entering said attributes into said markup language file~~ when one of the references in the attributes of one of the nodes matches the heading of one of the columns of the legacy file, retrieving all of

the text from said one of the columns of the legacy file, and entering said retrieved all text into said markup language file; and

~~when said attributes include one of said references that matches one of the column headings, retrieving text from the one of said columns having said matching one of said headings, and entering said retrieved text into said markup language file~~ traversing all of said nodes of said tree to ensure that references are found matching all of the column headings of the legacy file, and thereby to ensure that all of the text from the legacy file is retrieved therefrom and entered into the markup language file.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 11, wherein the providing step includes the step of providing the map file with default text for certain elements and attributes in the markup language file.

14. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 13, further comprising the step of entering the default text into the markup language for attributes having references that do not match headings of the flat file.

15. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 11, wherein the flat file is a tab delimited flat file.

Claim 16 (Cancelled).

17. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of providing the map file includes the steps of:

a user creating said map file for converting text of a specified legacy file to the markup language file;

said specified legacy file having a plurality of specified column headings; and

said user providing said map file with references matching all of the specified column headings of the specified legacy file.

18. (New) A method according to Claim 17, wherein the step of the user creating said map file includes the step of the user specifying in said map file which elements of the legacy file are to have multiple occurrences in said markup language file, and which elements of the legacy file are to be nested in the markup language file.

19. (New) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the step of the user providing said map file with references includes the step of the user providing said map file with the specified column headings of the specified legacy file.